







Gifts in wills are vital to Scope

# All of us go through our lives with beliefs and values we hold dear.

We believe that everyone should be able to fulfil their potential and that they should have the same opportunities as everyone else.

Leaving a gift to us in your will is an incredible way of allowing your beliefs and values live on through our work.





# In the future you can help us put more families first

As you may know, in 1952, three parents of children with cerebral palsy set up The Spastics Society because no one would educate their children.

Today, as Scope and with the help of supporters like you, this work continues; making this country a place where disabled people have the same opportunities as everyone else.

#### **Family matters**

We believe that resilient, strong families are the cornerstone of such a society. They provide supportive environments where children can grow and flourish, and are able to fulfil their potential and achieve their ambitions.

#### Your choice, your gift

Leaving a gift in your will can help to ensure that our support for families with disabled children continues into the future. But above all it can mean that a whole new generation will be able to live the lives they choose.



befriending service
I think I'd be pretty
much housebound.
Isolated. Aaron might
have even been taken
from me, as awful as
it sounds. God knows.
I wouldn't like to think
about it. They've
changed my life. ??

Danielle, mum of Aaron

# Your support is vital to mums like Danielle

Danielle was a mum at breaking point.
Her friendly little boy Aaron was becoming increasingly aggressive and Danielle didn't know why. He barely slept and was losing the speech he had learned as a toddler. Danielle needed help but she wasn't getting any support from medical professionals.

"I remember crying my eyes out at the doctors. I was begging for help – and they were just like, 'well, there's nothing we can do'. I was in bits. I can't tell you how dark that time was."

Danielle's turning point came during a hospital trip when she picked up a leaflet about Scope's befriending service. It took her a while to call us. Like many parents, she thought asking for help was weak. Now she says ringing Scope is the best thing she's done.

Two days later, Julie, a Scope befriender, visited Danielle at home. Danielle was in tears as she voiced her thoughts and fears but Julie was patient and non-judgemental. Mum to a disabled child herself, she knew where Danielle was coming from. It's this empathy and understanding that means so much to parents feeling isolated and alone.

From that first session, something lifted in Danielle. With Julie by her side, she pushed for Aaron to get the support he needed at school. She also went on an autism awareness course and learned strategies to deal with his aggressive episodes.

Today, life is looking very different for Danielle and Aaron. "I've got new friends— mums in the same situation — and a social life. Julie introduced us to a social club for families with disabled children and Aaron's made friends too. I'm so proud of Aaron — he's my little star."



## Our promise to you

- We recognise your family and friends come first in your will.
- We will treat you fairly when giving you the opportunity to leave a gift in your will
   we will always respect your privacy.
- We will never ask you the size or type of gift if you decide to support our work this way – because every gift makes a difference.
- We promise to use your gift wisely and cost effectively so that it has the greatest impact for disabled people and their families.
- We understand that circumstances change and there may be a time where you need to take Scope out of your will.
- We recognise that the decision to include Scope in your will is your choice and in your own time.
- We will give you the opportunity to be connected with the work we do showing what gifts like yours help to fund.

## Gifts from people like you

Every day, gifts which supporters like you have left us in their wills are helping to fund vital Scope services and making a difference to the lives of disabled people.

One of our supporters, Kathy, shares why she included a gift to Scope in her will.

"I have been involved in Scope's work for 20 years. In the future I would like disabled people to have more of the opportunities open to others. My view is that everyone deserves a chance to try and realise their potential in life.

I have left a gift in my will partly in memory of my dear parents who showed me that in spite of disability and hardship it is still possible to have a happy life. Also I like to think that my support for Scope will be able to continue after I have gone."

#### The gift that keeps its value

The most valuable gifts are a share of your assets. Gifts of this kind are vital to keep many of our services going. They can mean that many more people like those you've read about here will be able to lead the lives they choose.

What's more this type of gift is easy to add to your will without reducing any fixed sums you have left to family or friends. It also has the advantage that it will keep its value over the years.

#### Other gifts you can leave

Every gift is precious, and there are other kinds of gift you could consider. For example, you could leave us a cash gift of a specific amount. You may wish to leave us a particular item of value, such as a house, artwork or a piece of jewellery which you are happy for us to sell to raise funds for our work.

Once you have decided what kind of gift you wish to give, you may want to take the following sample wording with you when you visit your professional adviser to help with drafting your will.

### To give all or a share of your estate:

"I give [enter the word 'all' or 'a % share of'] the residue of my estate to Scope (registered charity number 208231) of 6 Market Road, London N7 9PW. I also direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer of Scope for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said legacy."

#### To give a cash gift:

"I give the sum of £ [enter the amount to be given] to Scope (registered charity number 208231) of 6 Market Road, London N7 9PW. I also direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer of Scope for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said legacy."

#### To give a specific item of value:

"I give [enter the details of the item to be given] to Scope (registered charity number 208231) of 6 Market Road, London N7 9PW. I also direct that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper officer of Scope for the time being shall be a full and sufficient discharge for the said legacy."

## Your questions answered

## Why should I leave a gift to Scope?

Leaving a gift to us in your will is a unique way for your values and beliefs to live on through Scope. It will ensure our work can continue many years into the future. Without these funds we could not afford to support disabled people in all the ways we do.

## I have already made my will, so why should I change it?

Looking back on the people you have read about you can see what a life changing difference a gift could make. You can change your will with the help of your solicitor or another professional adviser. Why not do this the next time you're updating your will when your personal circumstances change?

## I have my family to think of, so why should I leave a gift to you?

After you've looked after your family and friends, you may wish to leave a gift to Scope. You can change your will with the help of your solicitor or another professional adviser. Why not do this the next time you're updating your will when your personal circumstances change?

### What if I don't have a lot to leave?

Every gift in every will makes a huge difference to our work, no matter what size. If you are not sure how much you may have to leave it is often helpful to leave a percentage rather than a set amount.

## Is there a special type of gift to include to Scope?

The two most common types of gift to include to a charity in your will are a share of your estate, such as 1%, 10% or sometimes even 100%, or else a cash gift which can range from £100 to £1000 or even amounts over £20,000.

## What should I do if I have any questions?

You can call our Gifts in Wills Manager Manager Thomas Dixon on 020 7619 7289. He will be happy to answer any further questions you may have and help you in any way he can.

### **Contact us**

We love to hear from people about why they support us, or if you have any questions, please get in touch.

Please call Thomas Dixon on **020 7619 7289** 

Email thomas.dixon@scope.org.uk scope.org.uk/giftsinwills

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